

GROUNDNDED

MARVEL

#6

ZDARSKY
ANKA
WILSON

STAR-LORD



STAR-LORD

PETER QUILL IS THE HALF-ALIEN, HALF-HUMAN SON OF THE FORMER KING OF SPARTAX AND MEREDITH QUILL OF EARTH. ARMED WITH HIS ELEMENT GUNS AND ALIEN HELMET, QUILL HAS SPENT MUCH OF HIS LIFE ROAMING THE COSMOS IN SEARCH OF ADVENTURE AS A PART-TIME GUARDIAN OF THE GALAXY AND A FULL-TIME GUNSLINGER.



TRAPPED ON EARTH AND ESTRANGED FROM THE GUARDIANS, PETER QUILL BEFRIENDED RETIREEE EDMUND ALLEN, WHO WAS THE SILVER BANDIT IN HIS YOUTH--USING GRAVITY-DEFYING BOOTS AND GLOVES TO ROB THE RICH. EDMUND'S SON GREG GOT PETER A JOB AT VILLAIN HANGOUT THE BAR WITH NO NAME. UNBEKNOWNST TO PETER, BLACK CAT OWNED THE PLACE AND SURVEILLED IT TO GATHER INTEL FOR MORE VILLAINY, LIKE KIDNAPPING GREG TO FORCE PETER AND EDMUND TO ROB MASTER THIEF/BAR PATRON JAVELYN. STAR-LORD DIDN'T LEAVE ANYTHING TO CHANCE, ASKING DAREDEVIL AND LOGAN TO HELP, AND HAVING EDMUND DUST OFF HIS BOOTS FOR THE HEIST. BUT PETER DIDN'T EXPECT THAT EDMUND WOULD TRY TO CAPTURE BLACK CAT IN MID-AIR. THE EXERTION WAS TOO MUCH, AND EDMUND FELL.

* THIS STORY TAKES PLACE BEFORE THE EVENTS OF GUARDIANS OF THE GALAXY #19.

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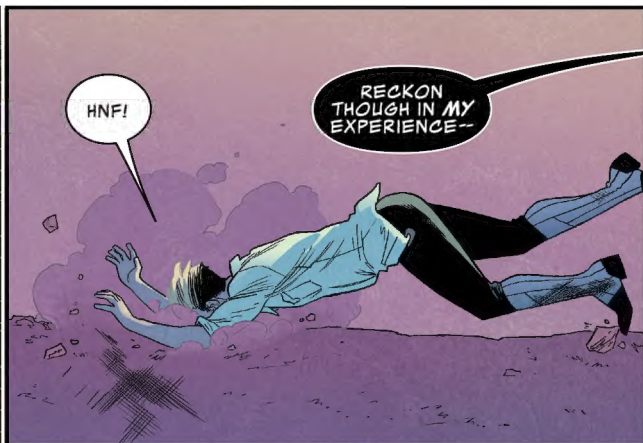
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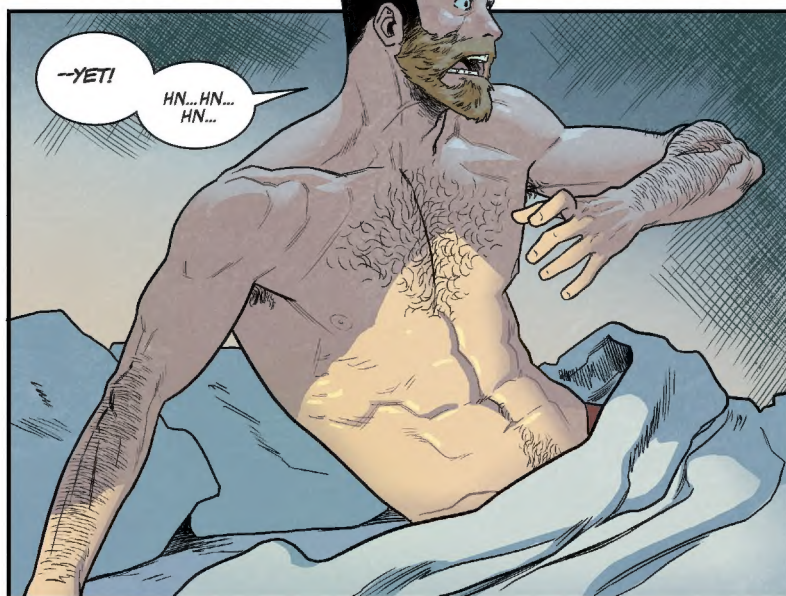
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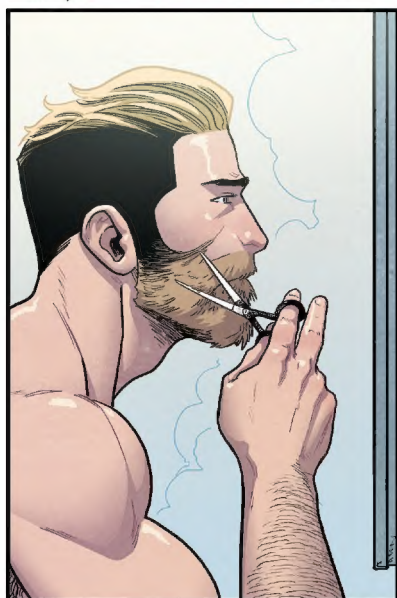
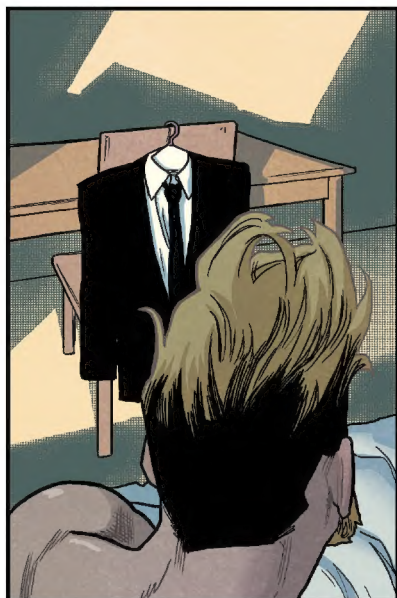
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ALAN FINE



HOW WE DIE





"HEY, THANKS FOR COMING..."

...I APPRECIATE IT. DAD DIDN'T HAVE A LOT OF FRIENDS...

UNLESS YOU SOMEHOW THINK THIS COUNTS AS YOUR COMMUNITY SERVICE TIME SPENT WITH HIM...

OH GOD, GREG, I FEEL HORRIBLE. I WASN'T... I...

LOOK, NONE OF THAT "I COULDA DONE MORE" CRAP...

...I'M THE ONE WHO WORKED IN THAT BAR. FOR THE **BLACK CAT**. THIS ALL WENT DOWN 'CAUSE I ENDANGERED HIM AND MYSELF.

AND HE DIED... HE DIED THINKING I...

GREG...

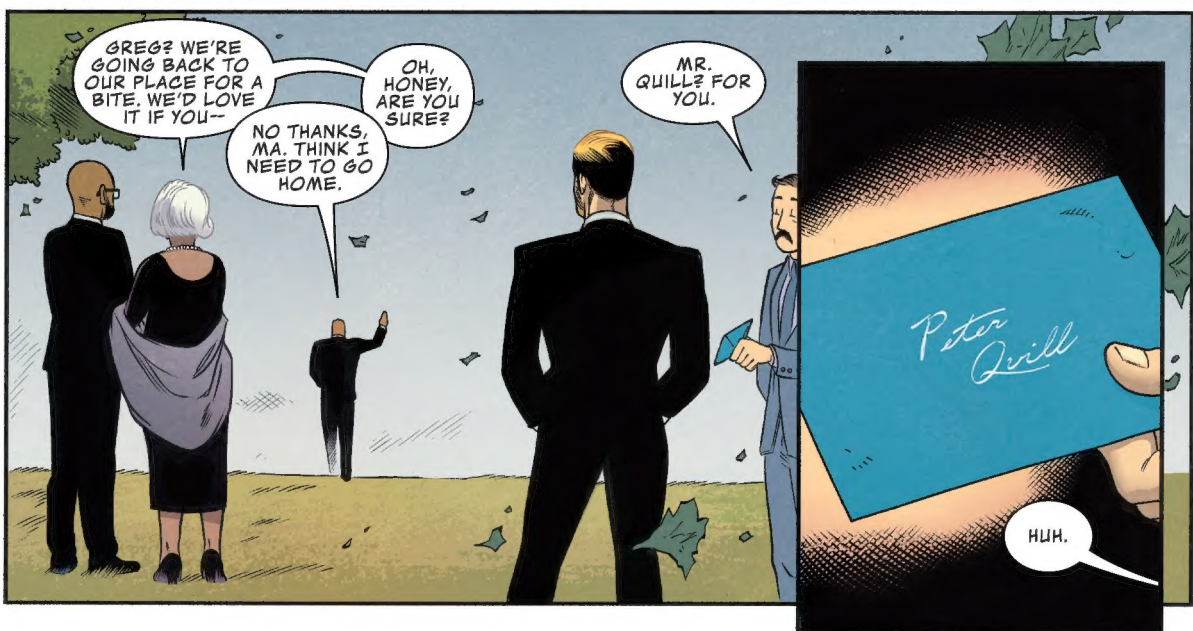
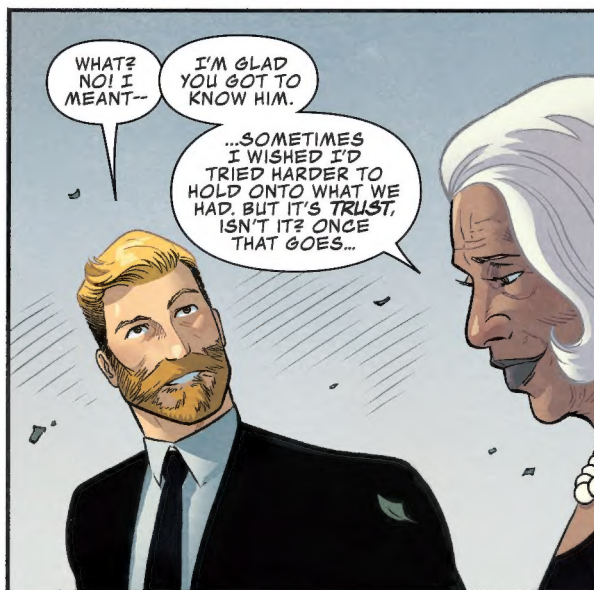
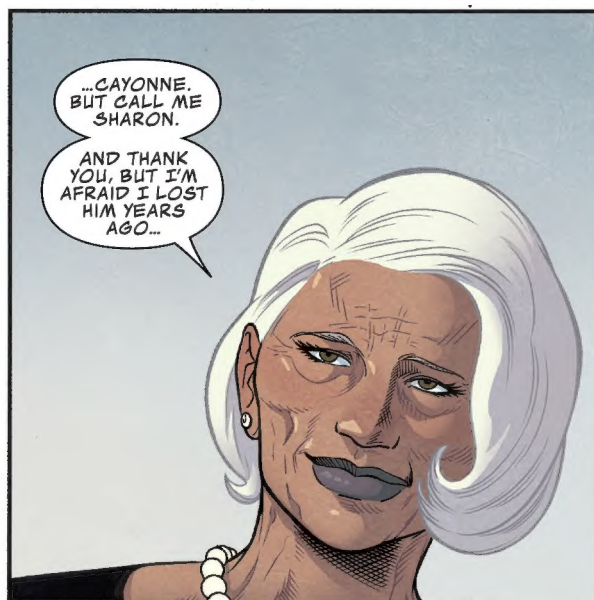
...YOUR DAD LOVED YOU. HE WOULD'VE GIVEN HIS LIFE TEN TIMES OVER TO SAVE YOU AND, BELIEVE ME, HE KNEW HOW YOU REALLY FELT.

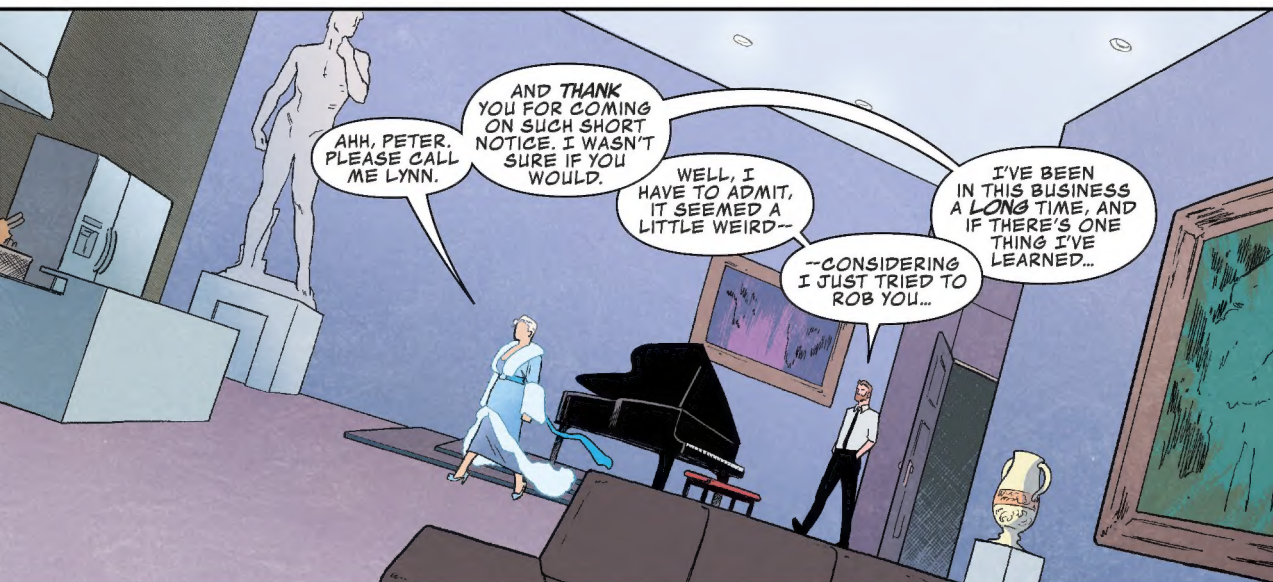
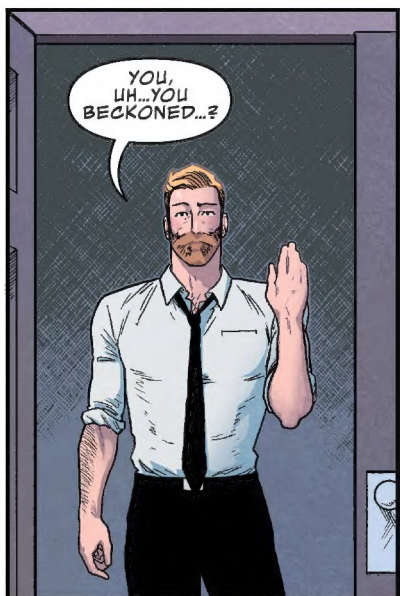
HE KNEW.

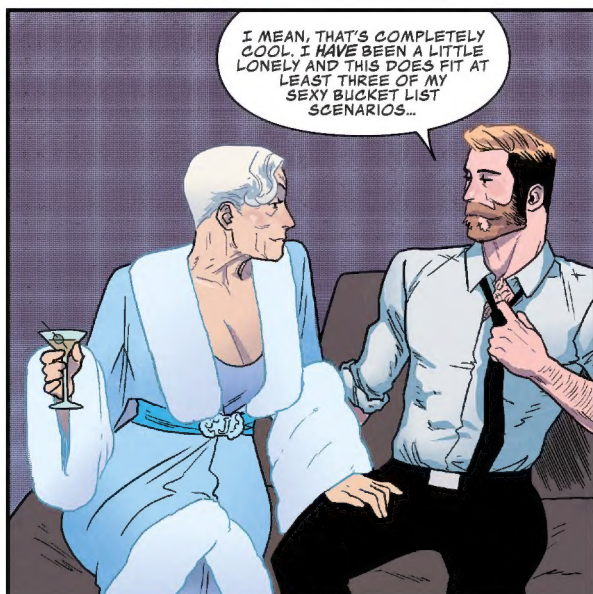
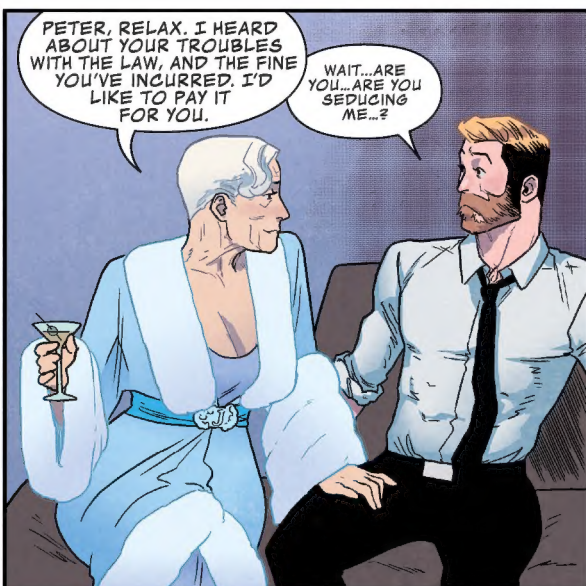
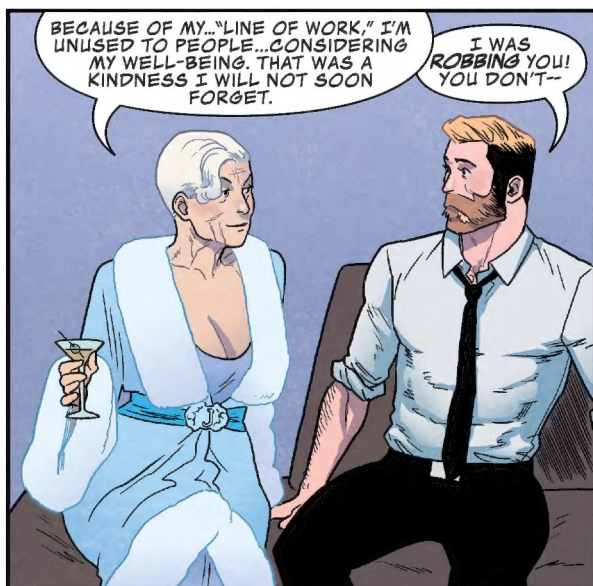
SON--

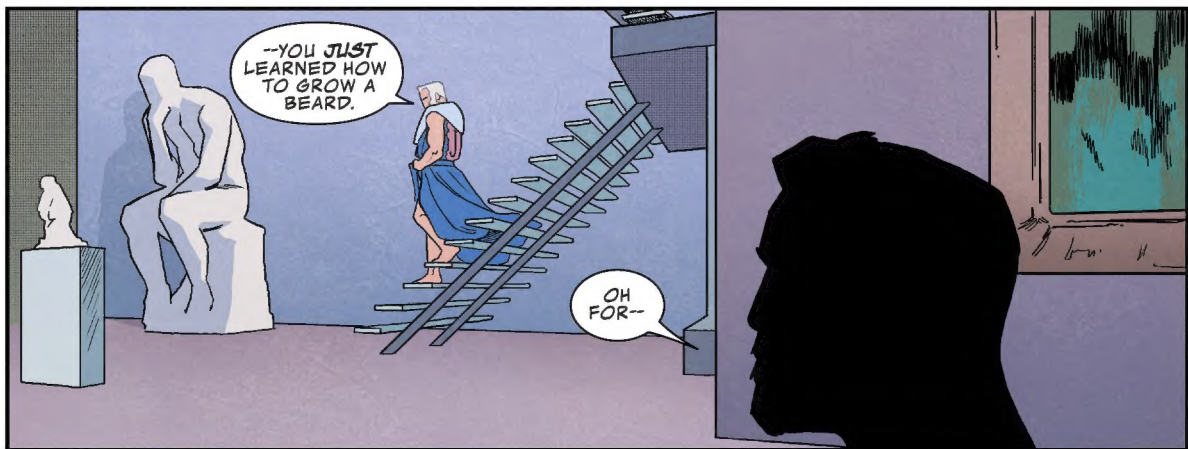
--IS THIS... THE MAN WHO HELPED SAVE YOU? EDMUND'S FRIEND...

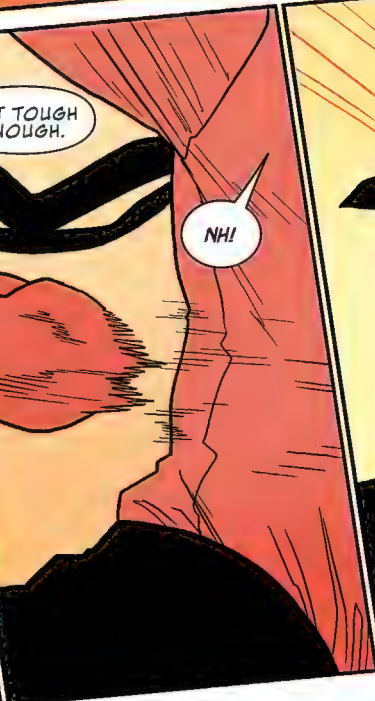
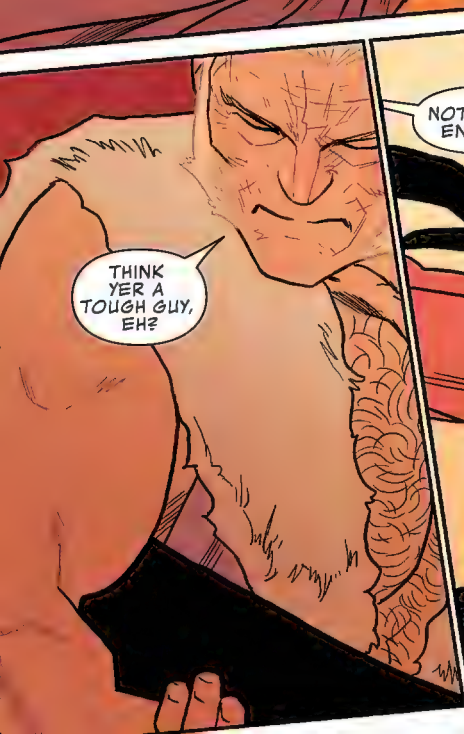
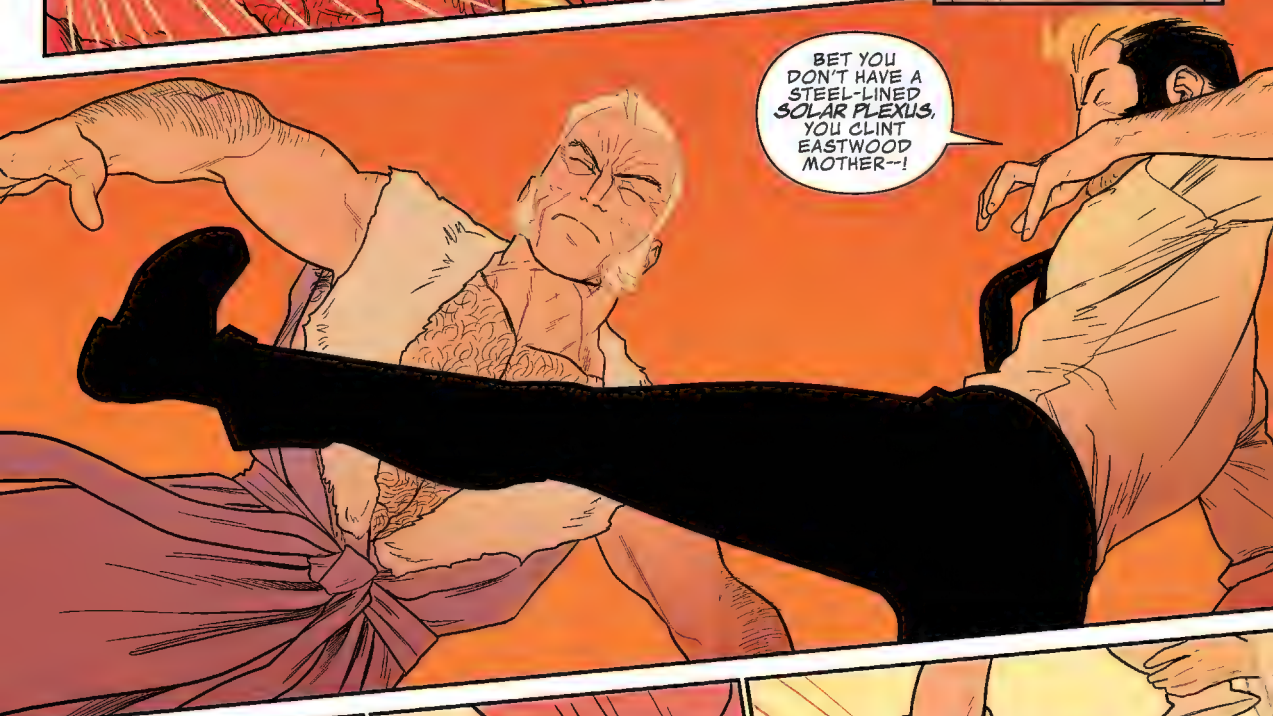
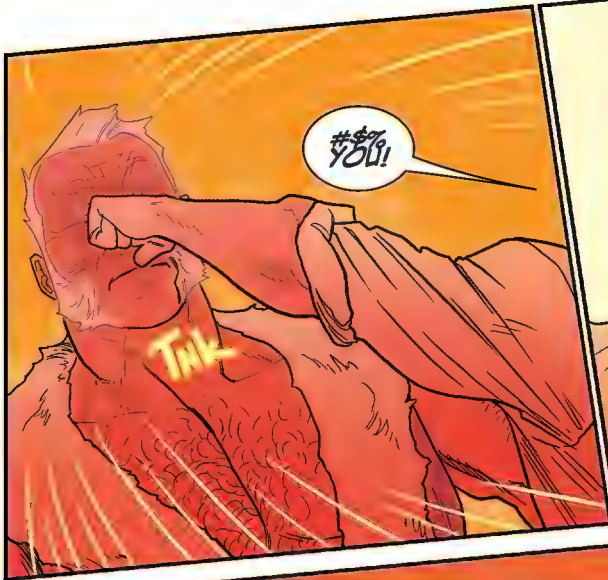
...PETER. I'M SORRY FOR YOUR LOSS, MS....

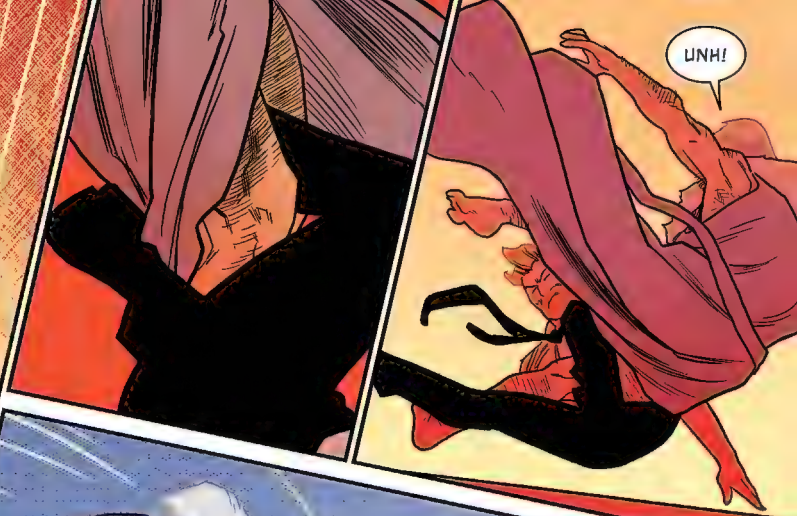
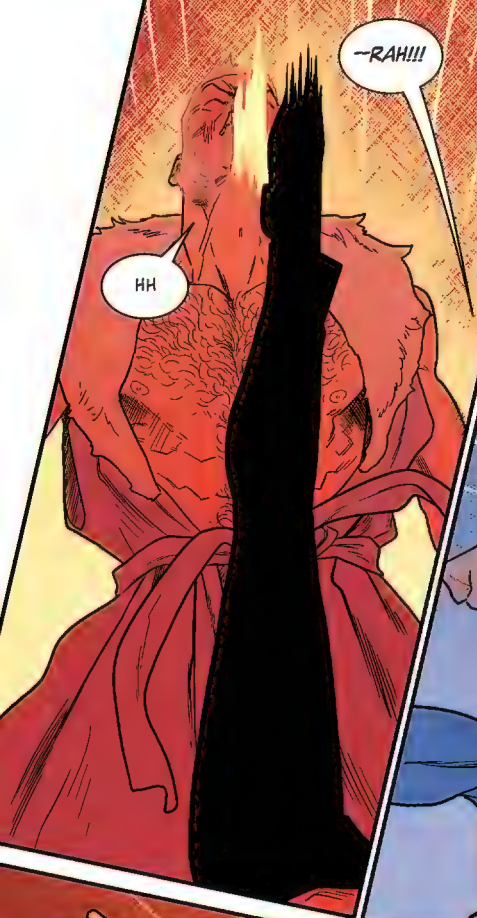


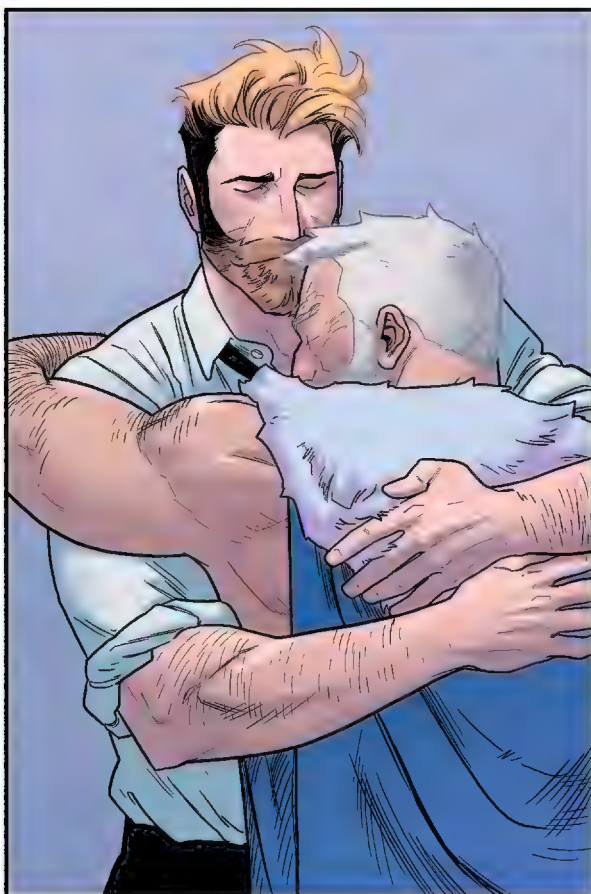
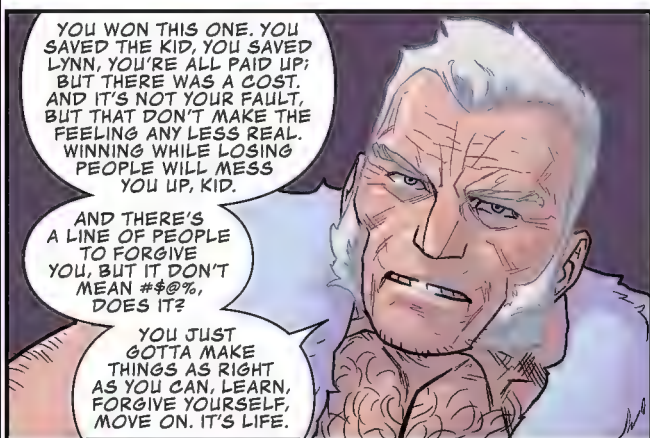
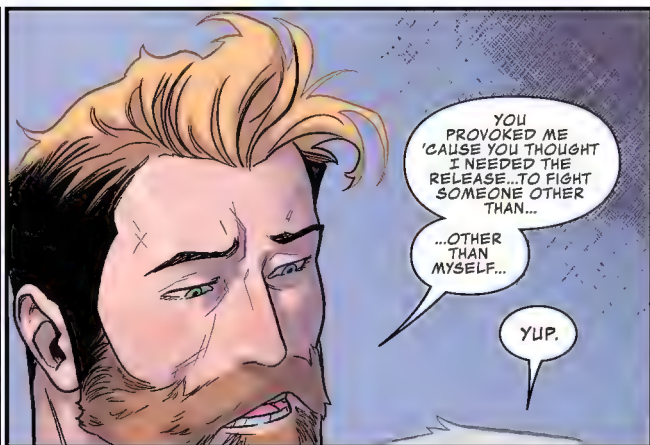


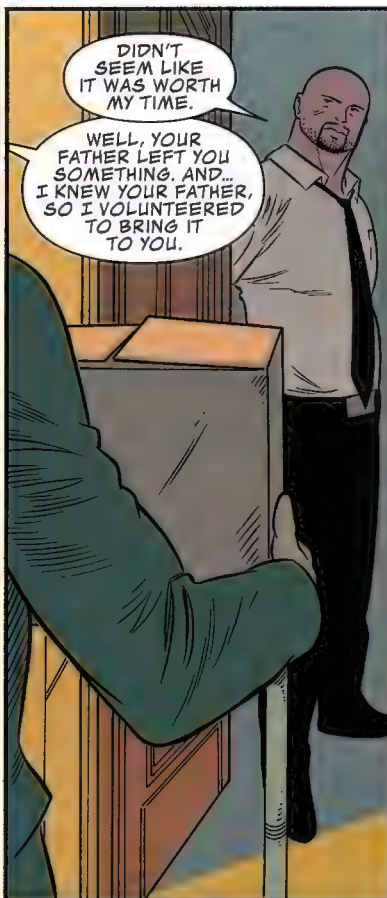








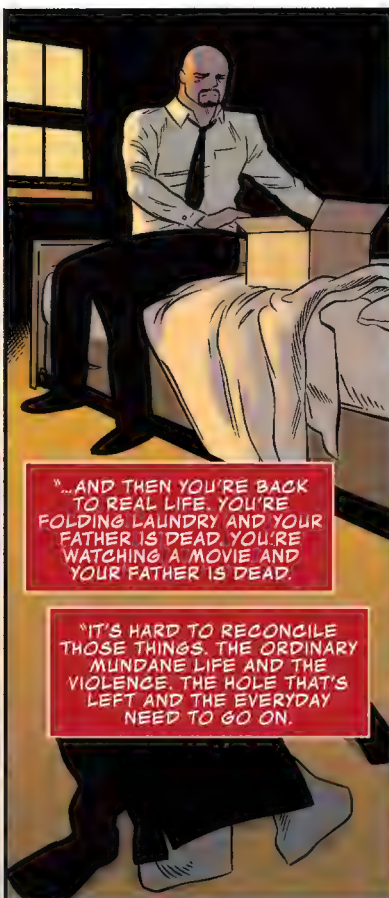






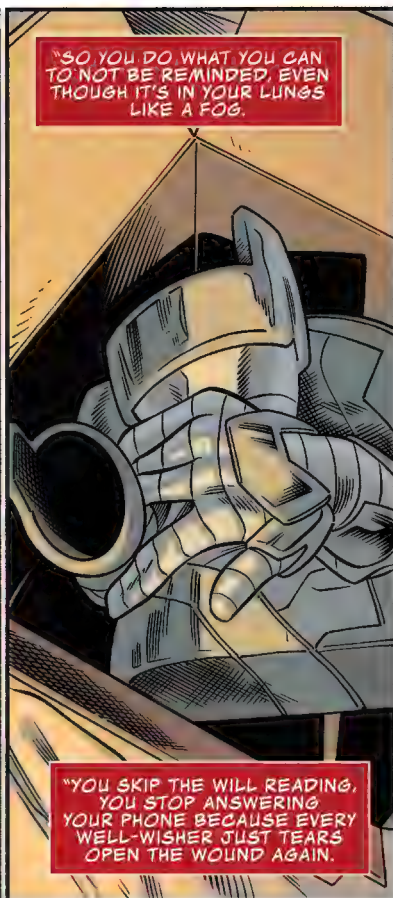
"IT'S SUDDEN AND BIG AND DOESN'T SEEM REAL."

"SO YOU MOVE THROUGH THE FUNERAL, THE CONSOLERS, THE RITUAL OF IT ALL THAT YOU'VE SEEN BEFORE FROM THE OUTSIDE."



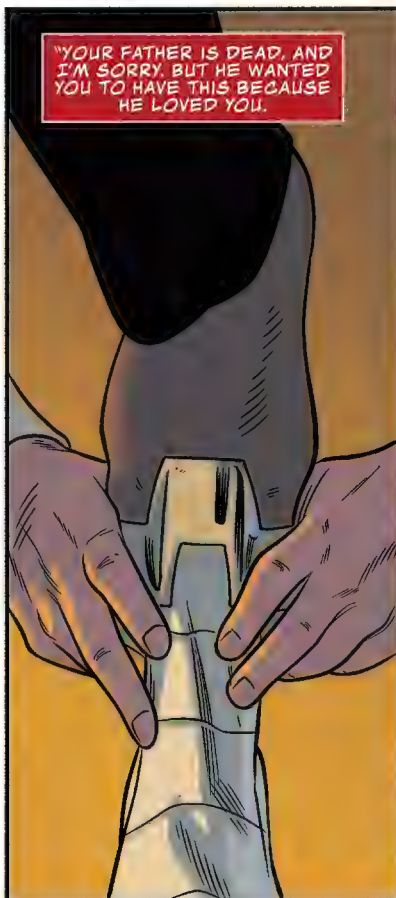
"...AND THEN YOU'RE BACK TO REAL LIFE. YOU'RE FOLDING LAUNDRY AND YOUR FATHER IS DEAD. YOU'RE WATCHING A MOVIE AND YOUR FATHER IS DEAD."

"IT'S HARD TO RECONCILE THOSE THINGS. THE ORDINARY MUNDANE LIFE AND THE VIOLENCE. THE HOLE THAT'S LEFT AND THE EVERYDAY NEED TO GO ON."



"SO YOU DO WHAT YOU CAN TO NOT BE REMINDED, EVEN THOUGH IT'S IN YOUR LUNGS LIKE A FOG."

"YOU SKIP THE WILL READING, YOU STOP ANSWERING YOUR PHONE BECAUSE EVERY WELL-WISHER JUST TEARS OPEN THE WOUND AGAIN."



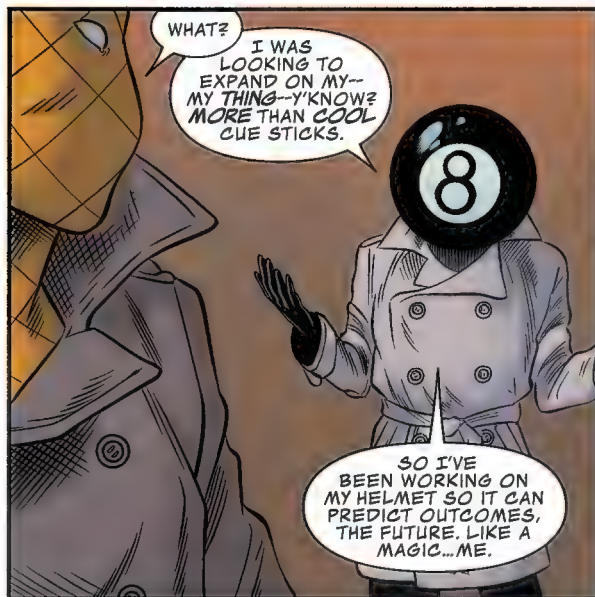
"YOUR FATHER IS DEAD, AND I'M SORRY, BUT HE WANTED YOU TO HAVE THIS BECAUSE HE LOVED YOU."

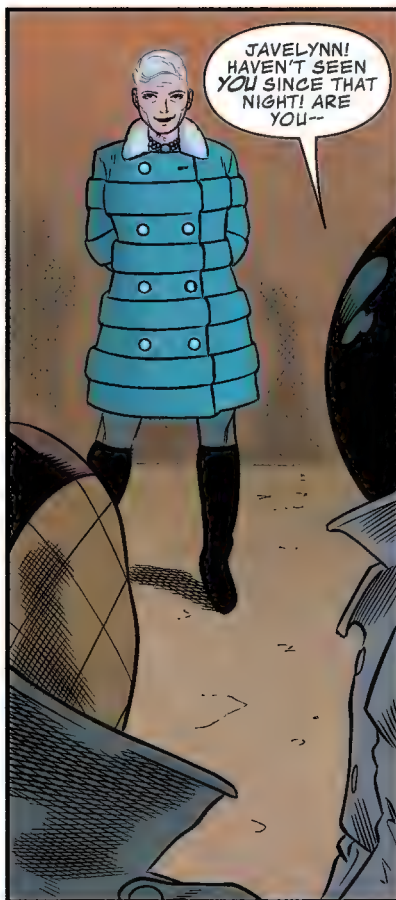


"AND THAT'S WORTH COMING BACK INTO THE SUNLIGHT FOR A SECOND."



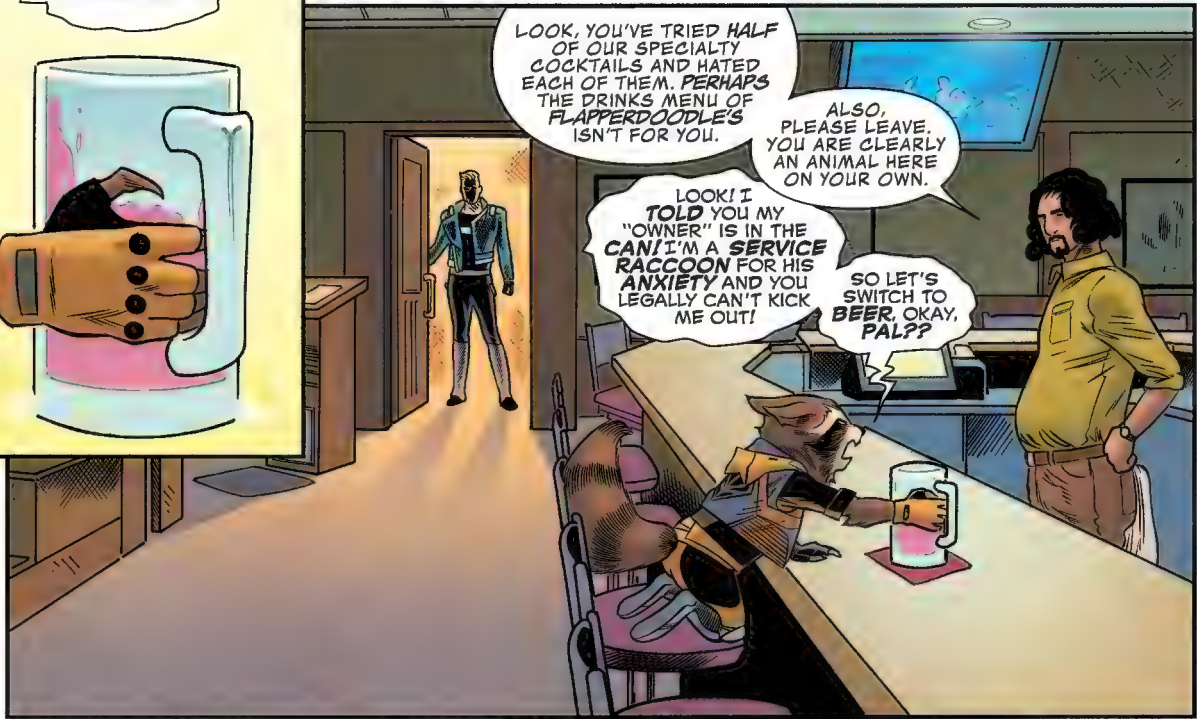
HA HA
HA HA HA
HA...







DISGUSTING!



LOOK, YOU'VE TRIED HALF OF OUR SPECIALTY COCKTAILS AND HATED EACH OF THEM. PERHAPS THE DRINKS MENU OF FLAPPERDOODLE'S ISN'T FOR YOU.

ALSO, PLEASE LEAVE. YOU ARE CLEARLY AN ANIMAL HERE ON YOUR OWN.

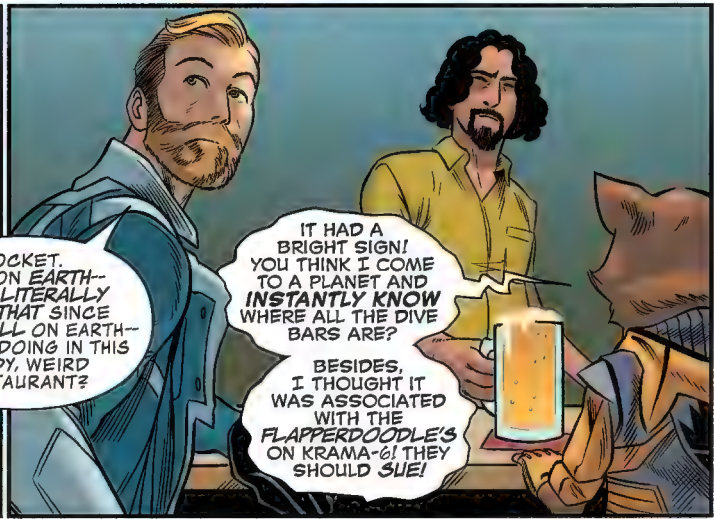
LOOK! I TOLD YOU MY "OWNER" IS IN THE CAN! I'M A SERVICE RACCOON FOR HIS ANXIETY AND YOU LEGALLY CAN'T KICK ME OUT!

SO LET'S SWITCH TO BEER, OKAY, PAL??



OH, THANK GOD YOU'RE STILL HERE. MY ANXIETY.

...OH. HEY, MY "OWNER."



ROCKET. WHAT ON EARTH-- AND I LITERALLY MEAN THAT SINCE WE'RE STILL ON EARTH-- ARE YOU DOING IN THIS GAUDY, WEIRD RESTAURANT?

IT HAD A BRIGHT SIGN! YOU THINK I COME TO A PLANET AND INSTANTLY KNOW WHERE ALL THE DIVE BARS ARE?

BESIDES, I THOUGHT IT WAS ASSOCIATED WITH THE FLAPPERDOODLE'S ON KRAMA-6! THEY SHOULD SUE!



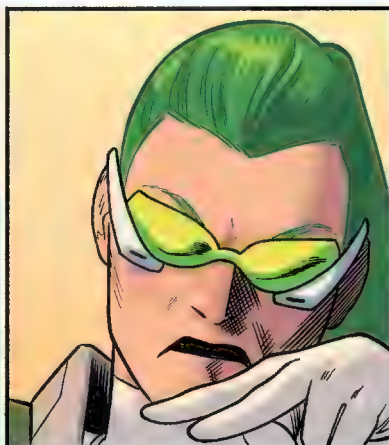
LOOK, I'M STILL NOT READY TO TALK TO YOU, PETE. YOU REALLY #@\$%## THINGS UP.

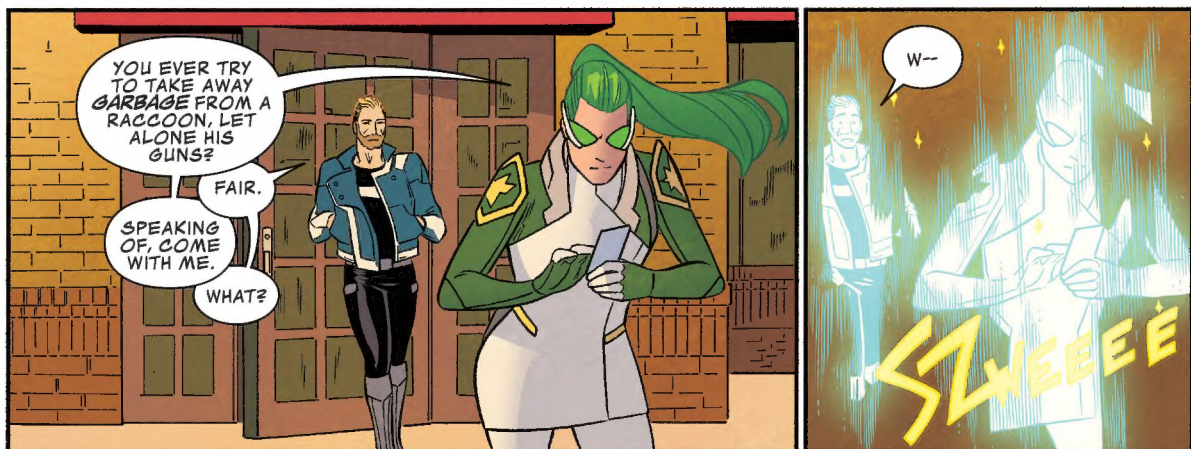
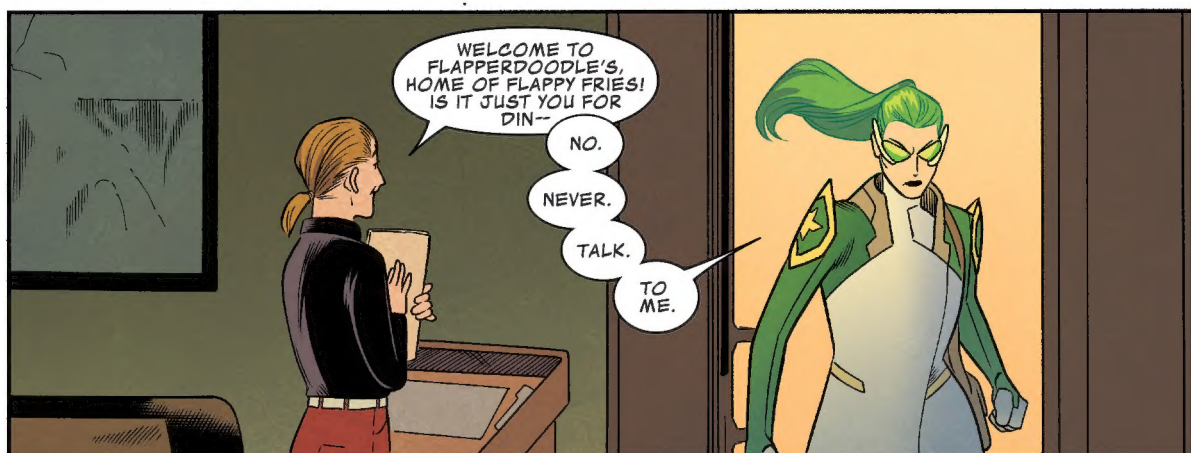
I KNOW. I GET IT.

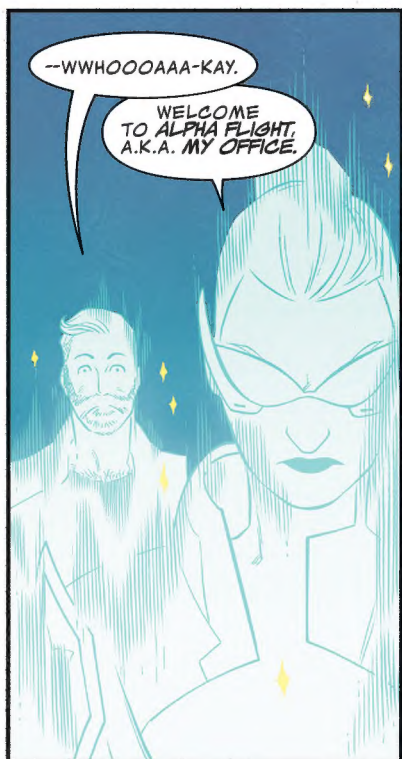
I'LL LEAVE YOU TO YOUR... FLAPPERDOODLE'S BREW. I JUST NEED TO SAY SOMETHING FIRST.



I'M SORRY. YOU'RE FAMILY. ALL THE GUARDIANS ARE MY FAMILY, AND THAT'S IN SHORT SUPPLY FOR ALL OF US. I SHOULD HAVE TRUSTED YOU GUYS, TOLD YOU THAT THANOS WAS HERE ON EARTH. I DON'T WANT TO LOSE Y--







--WWHOOOAAA-KAY.

WELCOME
TO ALPHA FLIGHT,
A.K.A. MY OFFICE.



WHAT'S
GOING ON? ARE
YOU GIVING ME A
JOB? I DID JUST
LOSE MY LAST
ONE...

NEVER.

BUT--



--I AM
GIVING YOU
THESE.

WHAT?

AH!
CLARICE AND
TERRY!



UH,
NOTHING.

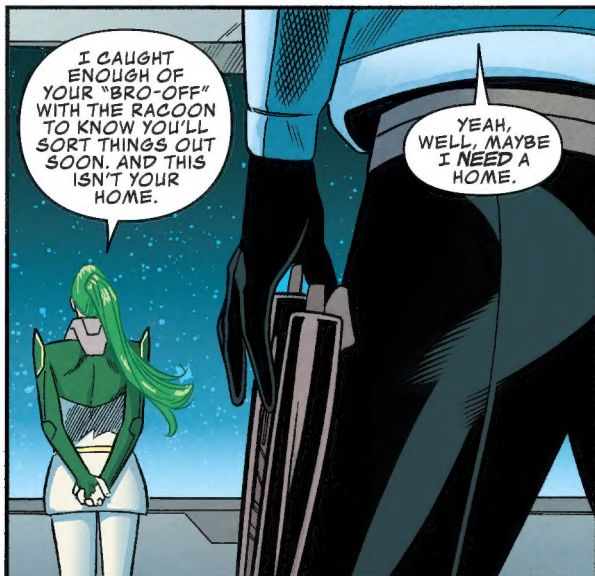
WHY ARE
YOU--

I PUT IN
A WORD BASED
ON YOUR RECENT
ACTIONS, SO
LEGALLY YOU'RE
IN THE CLEAR
NOW.

AND BESIDES,
YOU'RE LEAVING
SOON. WITH YOUR
GUARDIAN
BUDDIES.

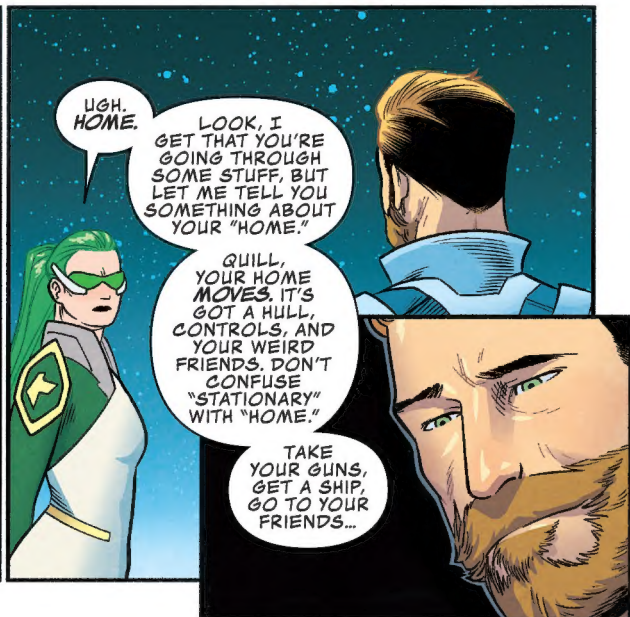
WHAT?
NO I'M
NOT.

SURE
YOU ARE.



I CAUGHT
ENOUGH OF
YOUR "BRO-OFF"
WITH THE RACCOON
TO KNOW YOU'LL
SORT THINGS OUT
SOON. AND THIS
ISN'T YOUR
HOME.

YEAH,
WELL, MAYBE
I NEED A
HOME.



UGH.
HOME.

LOOK, I
GET THAT YOU'RE
GOING THROUGH
SOME STUFF, BUT
LET ME TELL YOU
SOMETHING ABOUT
YOUR "HOME."

QUILL,
YOUR HOME
MOVES. IT'S
GOT A HULL,
CONTROLS, AND
YOUR WEIRD
FRIENDS. DON'T
CONFUSE
"STATIONARY"
WITH "HOME."

TAKE
YOUR GUNS,
GET A SHIP,
GO TO YOUR
FRIENDS...



...AND GET
THE #@\$% OFF
MY PLANET.

THE FATE OF THE GUARDIANS REVEALED IN...
GUARDIANS OF THE GALAXY #19!
AND THEN...IN *STAR-LORD ANNUAL #1*:
"PETER FIGHTS FOR HIS LIFE IN THE TOWN THE UNIVERSE FORGOT!"

STAR-LORD

NEXT

ANNUAL #1



GOT SOMETHING TO SAY? SEND LETTERS TO
MHEROES@MARVEL.COM AND MARK THEM "OKAY TO PRINT"!